

## Webster County

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### Community Health Needs Assessment Snapshot

#### Promote Healthy Behaviors

##### Problems/Needs:

- 1. Behavioral health resources are limited and unknown in our rural community because of a decrease in service providers and awareness of services available.
- 2. Heart disease continues to be a leading health concern for citizens in Webster County.
- 3. Decrease in the number of oral health providers accepting Medicaid clients and/or new patients.
- 4. Lack of oral health providers to do restorative dental treatment for children ages 5 and younger.
- 5. Increase number of teenagers expecting a baby or having another baby.
- 6. Lack of knowledge/education on STD/HIV/AIDS prevention.
- 7. Lack of overall assessment of high risk choices or behaviors in children and adults.
- 8. Binge drinking has shown an increase in occurrence especially in the college age population.
- 9. Children/adults are at an increased risk for bullying behaviors due to poor economic times and increased technological advances.

#### Prevent Injuries

##### Problems/Needs:

- 1. Increase in prevalence of suicides among citizens of Webster County over the past 6 months
- 2. There is an increased need for awareness of violence, including sexual assault, on middle school, high school, & college campus'.

## Protect Against Environmental Hazards

### Problems/Needs:

- 1. All children need to be lead tested at the recommended intervals, including their Well-Child exams.
- 2. Clients struggling with hoarding tendencies have limited resources to find help if wanted. This would include counseling, clean up, addressing safety of environment, etc.  
Many residents do not realize a secondary treatment system is needed for their septic system and they do not have funds to meet the new code requirements.

## Prevent Epidemics and the Spread of Disease

### Problems/Needs:

- 1. Lack of understanding of the need for affordable adult vaccines available for all residents
- 2. Lack of knowledge regarding STD testing/treatment continues to be a risk to citizens - not knowing the signs, not getting tested/treated, unknowingly transmitting to future partners, lack of funds/resources to provide affordable or free testing.
- 3. Adults are lacking some knowledge of the importance of continued vaccinations especially the importance of Tdap.

## Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies

### Problems/Needs:

- 1. Lack of protocol/procedures to follow when developing policies and procedures related to emergency preparedness.
- 2. encourage I-serve & DHS behavioral health service volunteers red cross volunteers

## Strengthen the Public Health Infrastructure

### Problems/Needs:

- 1. Lack of motivation to make healthy lifestyle choices in our fast paced world
- 2. Lack of available and affordable transportation to and from appointments during the day and evening hours. Transportation also becomes an issue for people needing to travel outside county for services
- 3. Families often cannot find translator services making communication difficult. This would include hearing impaired clients.
- 4. Some insurance plans do not cover services needed by clients making it difficult for them to follow through with treatment plans
- 5. Cost of insurance is growing concern for people/families.

## Community Health Improvement Plan

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
1. Make community aware of available behavioral health resources.	1. Hold focus group meeting with area partners requesting input on services provided in community.	Webster County Health Department	Winter 2010
	2. Make contact with United Way to establish a contact person to assist/develop resource guide.	Early Childhood Iowa; United Way	Spring 2011
	3. Update/develop a resource guide listing available providers focusing on behavioral health, addictions, suicide prevention for community-wide distribution.	Webster County Health Department; United Way; Early Childhood Iowa	Fall 2011
	4. Completed resource guide will be available on WCHD website as well as distributed to area schools, physicians, and various other locations.	Webster County Health Department	Spring 2012
	5. Seek out donations/resources from community partners to help with printing cost and distribution of guide. Have hard copy guide located at ISU extension, WCHD, Public Libraries, & Chamber.	Webster County Health Department; United Way	Ongoing

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
2. Increase awareness of services within Webster County.	1. Increase in services provided for drug addiction by ____%.	Community Family Resources	
	2. Increase in services provided for gambling addiction by ____%.	Community Family Resources	
	3. Increase in services provided for alcohol addiction by ____%.	Community Family Resources	

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
3. Increase awareness of support for people dealing with suicide attempts or loss of a loved one.	1. Support area supports groups for people to talk about how suicide has touched their lives.	Webster County Health Department & Support Group Members	Winter 2011
	2. Include in resource directory recommendation of Ministerial Association counseling and support services	Ministerial Council; United Way	Spring 2012

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
4. Increase staff & student awareness/knowledge of common risking choices among college students.	1. Communicate with college president and admin staff about topics of interests and the best way to provide information to staff/students.	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; Iowa Central Community College	Summer 2012
	2. Provide in-service to college staff during fall housing meetings on various topics, such as binge drinking, drug, and violence to self or others.	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; Iowa Central Community College	Ongoing
	3. Survey students during college experience class to learn what students concerns are with high risk behaviors on campus.	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; Iowa Central Community College	Ongoing
	4. Provide additional education/follow up to student survey. Education will be provided with college experience class.	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; Iowa Central Community College	Ongoing

	5. Offer counseling services to Iowa Central Community College students and staff for gambling addictions	Community Family Resources	Ongoing
	6. Provide additional resources/support to students/staff as needed	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; Iowa Central Community College; Iowa Central Campus RN	Ongoing

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
5. Increase education/resources for students in grades 5-12 in all public and parochial schools for choosing healthy behaviors.	1. Offer services to school board members.	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; School Nurses, Counselors and Administration	Fall 2012
	2. Offer additional information/resources during orientation/parent meeting times.	Webster County Health Department; Community & Family Resources; School Nurses, Counselors and Administration	Ongoing - prior to start of school year